THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The additional amount paid during the last three years and the estimated additional amount likely to be paid for import of crude oil during the current year due to devaluation of rupee against dollar *vis-a-vis* its exchange rate in March, 1998 are given below:

	Additional amount Rs. Crore
1998-99	943
1999-00	3,444
2000-01	8,723
2001-02	11,245

Concessions Sought by India From OPEC

†2994 SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India had sought concessions from the oil exporting countries in the recently held Petroleum Conference (17th to 20th September, 2001) in China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of OPEC countries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The First Asia Regional Meeting of the World Petroleum Congress was held in Shanghai in China from 17th to 20th September, 2001. The said conference was attended amongst others, by China, India and Saudi Arabia. The theme of the meeting was "technology and cooperation - a fundamental strategy for Asia's petroleum industry". Issues of stabilizing the prices and continuity of the supply of crude were not discussed in the Regional Meeting.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.